

VOLUNTEER

SPOTLIGHT

MEET JOHN BACHELOR

John has been a dedicated CASA volunteer for the past three years. In that time, he has passionately advocated for five families, supporting a total of 17 children. Now retired, John brings a wealth of life experience and compassion to his role.

When he's not volunteering, John stays active and engaged with a variety of interests. He enjoys running to keep both his mind and body healthy, fishing, watching nearly any sport, gardening, traveling, and diving into mystery novels—both in print and audio form.

We are truly grateful to have John as part of the Lucas County CASA team. Here's what he had to say about his volunteer experience:



Why I Became a CASA Volunteer

After years as a high school special education teacher, I missed the meaningful connection to children that teaching provided. Becoming a CASA volunteer offered me a similar opportunity to make a difference in young lives while allowing me to use my background in education.

The Impact of CASA on My Life

Being a CASA volunteer has taught me to be more intentional with my time. I've learned to carefully balance my CASA appointments and commitments alongside my family responsibilities, church activities, grandchildren's sporting events, travel plans, and personal wellness routines.

Why Children Need CASA Volunteers

Children who have experienced abuse and neglect often develop a profound distrust of adults. CASA volunteers can gradually break through these barriers by being consistent, positive, and present during difficult times. We provide a stable relationship when children need it most, showing them that trustworthy adults do exist.



Snake River Teton National Park

Collaboration Approach

I leverage my background in education to build strong relationships with school principals, teachers, and counselors. Additionally, I work closely with Children Services caseworkers and maintain regular communication with the children's caregivers, whether they're parents, grandparents, or foster parents. I make it a priority to visit the children in their homes to better understand their living situations and needs.



Most Impactful Experience

One of my most meaningful experiences was mentoring a 17-year-old girl who, upon turning 18, requested emancipation during a court hearing. Despite her struggles with academics, behavior issues at school, conflicts with her foster mother, and just recently securing her first job at a daycare, I witnessed something remarkable at her hearing. The confidence in her voice and the smile that spread across her face when the magistrate granted her emancipation told me everything I needed to know—she was going to make it, despite my earlier doubts.

Advice for Prospective CASA Volunteers

The role of a CASA volunteer can be as time-consuming, challenging, and rewarding as you want it to be. It all depends on your level of commitment. The three most important qualities for success are patience, resilience, and flexibility.

CASA INFORMATION SESSIONS

Reserve your spot today at CASAKids.net or call 419-213-6753.

**Be the voice that helps
a child thrive!** 